Roy Cooper, Governor Erik A. Hooks, Secretary W. David Guice, Commissioner

## **MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Chairs of the Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Justice and Public Safety

Chairs of Senate Appropriations Committee on Justice and Public Safety

Chairs of House of Representatives Appropriations Subcommittee on Justice and Public

Safety

**FROM:** Erik A. Hooks, Secretary

W. David Guice, Commissioner

**RE:** Reimburse Counties for Housing and Extraordinary Medical Costs for Inmates,

Parolees, and Post-Release Supervisees Awaiting Transfer to State Prison System

**DATE:** February 1, 2017

Pursuant to Section 16C.1 of Session Law 2015- 241, Notwithstanding G.S. 143C-6-9, the Department of Public Safety may use funds available to the Department for the 2015-2017 fiscal biennium to pay the sum of forty dollars (\$40.00) per day as reimbursement to counties for the cost of housing convicted inmates, parolees, and post-release supervisees awaiting transfer to the State prison system, as provided in G.S. 148-29. The Department shall report annually by February 1 of each year to the chairs of the Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Justice and Public Safety and the chairs of the House of Representatives and Senate Appropriations Committees on Justice and Public Safety on the expenditure of funds to reimburse counties for prisoners awaiting transfer.

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For the calendar year 2016, the Department experienced a brief period of jail backlog expenditures during the month of October 2016. This period of expenditures was a direct result of a disturbance at Neuse Correctional Institution which occurred on October 23, 2016. Due to this disturbance, the processing of inmates in from county jails was delayed for a period short period of time until the agency could divert the arrivals to other diagnostic facilities within the system. This delay resulted in the following:

CALENDAR YEAR	MONTH	DAYS INVOICED	AMOUNT INVOICED FROM COUNTY JAIL TO DOP	AMOUNT PAID BY DOP TO COUNTY JAIL	BALANCE DOP TO PAY TO COUNTY JAIL
2016	Jan	0	0.00	0.00	0.00
2016	Feb	0	0.00	0.00	0.00
2016	Mar	0	0.00	0.00	0.00
2016	Apr	0	0.00	0.00	0.00
2016	May	0	0.00	0.00	0.00
2016	Jun	0	0.00	0.00	0.00
2016	Jul	0	0.00	0.00	0.00
2016	Aug	0	0.00	0.00	0.00
2016	Sep	0	0.00	0.00	0.00
2016	Oct	151	6,040.00	0.00	6,040.00
2016	Nov	40	1,600.00	0.00	1,600.00
2016	Dec	0	0.00	0.00	0.00
	TOTALS:	191	7,640	0	7,640

The Department continues to implement measures to maintain a reduction in jail backlog. This includes the processing of short term felons at designated diagnostic centers and additional transfer runs from each diagnostic center to assure that offenders who complete processing are transferred in a timely manner.

As previously reported, the Department has undergone six (6) consecutive years in which it was able to maintain no backlog. The Department will continue to consider and utilize all options available in an attempt to revert back to the previous level of reduction in jail backlog.

If you have any questions about this report, please contact Melissa Earp, 984-255-6002.